Amendments To The Claims

This Listing Of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 to 17 (Canceled).

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): <u>A process Process</u> for the preparation of <u>a N-cyano-N-alkylalkanesulphonamides N-cyano-N-alkylalkanesulfonamide</u> of the <u>general formula:</u>

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^2 \\
N \\
N \\
O \\
R^1
\end{array}$$
IV b.

in which R^1 and R^2 are <u>each</u> a C_{1-6} -alkylgroup characterized in that <u>, comprising</u> reacting a cyanogen halide is prepared using and an N-alkyl-alkanesulfonamide of the general formula

in which R^1 and R^2 have the above-mentioned meanings, are a C_{1-6} -alkyl group, in the presence of a base.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): <u>A N-cyano-N-alkylkanesulfonamide</u> N-Cyano-N-alkylalkanesulphonamides of the general formula:

in which R^1 and R^2 are <u>each</u> a C_{1-6} -alkyl group.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): <u>N-Cyano-N-methylmethanesulfonamide</u>

N-Cyano-N-methylmethanesulphonamide.

Claims 21 to 23 (Cancelled).